

AK

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/727,444

Examiner

Omar F. Fernández Rivas

Applicant(s)

KARNAWAT ET AL.

Art Unit

2129

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to an RCE entered on October 29, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 5-12 and 26-29.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>10/1/2004</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to an RCE filed by the Applicant entered on October 29, 2007.
2. Claims 1-3, 5-12 and 26-29 are allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: claims 1-3, 5-12 and 26-29 are considered allowable since when reading the claims in light of the specification, as per MPEP § 2111.01, In re Donaldson Co., Inc., 29 USPQ 2d 1845, 1850 (Fed. Cir. 1994), or In re Sneed, 710 F.2d 1544, 1548, 218 USPQ 385 (Fed. Cir. 1983), none of the references of record alone or in combination disclose or suggest the combination of limitations specified in the independent claims specifically "the implicit feedback data comprises time spent reviewing a specific item of the results list, wherein the time spent is calculated by subtracting any time that a user switched to another application while reviewing the specific item (as defined at e.g. page 12, paragraph 50; pages 13-14, paragraph 57), and wherein the explicit user feedback data comprises (a) a user rating of the quality or usefulness of the specific item reviewed from the results list and (b) the user response to the at least one question concerning the results list as a whole (as defined at page 12, paragraphs 50-51; pages 14-15, paragraphs 59-60)"

Biebesheimer et al. (US Patent Application Publication #2002/0152190) teaches a system for performing resource search and selection the system receives a query from a user. A user context vector is generated and the user's query and the context

vector are mapped to resources and a subset of resources most relevant to the user's query is generated.

Fries et al. (US Patent #6,751,606) teaches a system for searching a network. The system receives a search query from a user. Terms are extracted from the query and documents associated with the extracted terms are retrieved.

The web page <http://whatis.techtarget.com> (referred to as whatis) teaches a definition for state machine.

Hosken (US Patent #6,438,579) teaches a system for recommending items to a user. Items are recommended based on similarity in profile data between the user and other user. Explicit and implicit ratings for the items are stored. Upon request of the user, the system accesses the user's profile data and a contents database. The system uses the relationships between the items to determine a subset of items to be referred to the user.

However, the combined teachings of Biebesheimer, Fries, whatis and Hosken do not teach "the implicit feedback data comprises time spent reviewing a specific item of the results list, wherein the time spent is calculated by subtracting any time that a user switched to another application while reviewing the specific item, and wherein the explicit user feedback data comprises (a) a user rating of the quality or usefulness of the specific item reviewed from the results list and (b) the user response to the at least one question concerning the results list as a whole" as disclosed in independent claim 1 of the instant application.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

David US Patent #6,801,902

Biebesheimer et al. US Patent #6,853,998

Fleury et al. US Patent #6,571,606

Delgado et al. US Patent #6,801,909

5. Claims 1-3, 5-12 and 26-29 are allowed.

Correspondence Information

6. Any inquires concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Omar F. Fernández Rivas, who may be reached Monday through Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. EST. or via telephone at (571) 272-2589 or email omar.fernandezrivas@uspto.gov.

If you need to send an Official facsimile transmission, please send it to (571) 273-8300.

If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful the Examiner's Supervisor, David Vincent, may be reached at (571) 272-3080.

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Hand-delivered responses should be delivered to the Receptionist @ (Customer Service Window Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22313), located on the first floor of the south side of the Randolph Building.

Omar F. Fernández Rivas
Patent Examiner
Artificial Intelligence Art Unit 2129
United States Department of Commerce
Patent & Trademark Office



Tuesday, December 04, 2007



DAVID VINCENT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER